

Abbeville Press and Banner

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ESTABLISHED
1844

M'CORMICK COUNTY PASSES COURT TEST

LEGALITY OF ITS ERECTION IS
SUSTAINED AT EN BANC
SESSION.

Columbia, S. C., April 13.—The election providing for the establishment of McCormick County was declared yesterday by an en banc session of the supreme court to have been legally held. There are now 45 counties in South Carolina, the new unit having been recognized by an act of the legislature. The decision by the court means that all constitutional requirements have been met for the creation of the new county. The en banc session of the supreme court was attended yesterday by a large number of advocates of the new county. The new unit will be made up from parts of Edgefield, Abbeville and Greenwood counties.

The new county movement has been carried after a fight extending over a period of 20 years. Citizens of the new county are making arrangements for a celebration at McCormick today. Yesterday they extended an invitation to Gov. Manning to attend the celebration. The governor was forced to decline because of other engagements.

The election was held last year. An appeal was taken to the State board of canvassers and the election was declared to have been legally held. Then the case was carried on to the supreme court. After hearing the arguments and giving the matter much consideration the five justices of the supreme court failed to agree and the circuit judges of the State were called to their assistance.

The majority opinion was written by Associate Justice Hydrick and was concurred in by Associate Justice Fraser and Circuit Judges Prince, Shipp, Sease, Rice, Bowman, Maudin, Smith and Peurifoy. The dissenting opinion was written by Chief Justice Gary and concurred in by Judge DeVore. A separate dissenting opinion was written by Associate Justice Watts and concurred in by Associate Justice Gage and Circuit Judge Wilson and Frank B. Gary. Another dissenting opinion was written by Judge Ernest Moore.

The McCormick county advocates were represented yesterday at the hearing by R. H. Welch of the Columbia bar, William N. Graydon and J. B. Park represented the petitioners.

The case was that of T. A. Robinson and others against R. M. McCown and other members of the State board of canvassers.

In 1905 an election was held and carried by a majority of four to one in favor of McCormick county, but the opponents won out in the courts because the required area was lacking. At another election in 1914 the new county agitators won by a vote of six to one, but for the second time it was set aside by the courts. The last in 1915 won out by a big majority.

McCormick, the county seat of the new county, is located on the Charleston & Western Carolina railway, 43 miles above Augusta and 25 miles from Abbeville, Greenwood and Edgefield.

THREE DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

Augusta, Ga., April 14.—Fire of unknown origin in a warehouse on that part of "cotton row" which escaped the five million dollar conflagration March 22, destroyed nearly five hundred bales of cotton here to night. The flames threatened to spread to the Broad street business blocks that escaped before.

The loss tonight is estimated at twenty-eight thousand dollars. The entire fire department was called before the blaze was controlled.

\$200,000 Loss in Fire That Destroyed Lumber Plant at Jacksonville.

Jacksonville, Fla., April 14.—Sparks from a turpentine retort started a fire which consumed the lumber mill of the Gress Manufacturing company, here today. The loss is two hundred thousand dollars.

Sixteen Houses Go Up in Flames at Woodside Mill Near Greenville.

Greenville, April 14.—The worst fire that Woodside mill has ever known, began at 20 minutes past 11 o'clock today, near the west end of fifth street and swept up each side of the street burning sixteen houses in the short time of one hour and ten minutes. The houses were fully covered by insurance, carried by the mill company, though it is reliably reported that practically no insurance was carried on the household goods. No personal injuries are reported as a result of the fire.

The fire-swept path was about a hundred yards from the mill building and as the wind was blowing in opposite direction this structure did not appear to be in imminent danger. The houses destroyed were frame structures, fifteen of them being four room houses and one a six room house.

Most of the houses were each occupied by two families and these people are homeless this afternoon, though the mill management immediately began steps to provide them with temporary homes until permanent arrangements can be made.

Lilies for the Holy Easter Day



O EARTH, upon thy breast,
By the soft winds caress't,
Bring all thy blossoms forth in bright array,
From dusky wood and dell
Sweet herb and lily bell
To ornament his holy Easter Day.

WAS BODY OF VILLA TAKEN FROM GRAVE?

DID CARLOS CARRANZA FIND
VILLA DEAD AND BURIED?
REPORT SAYS SO.

Mexico City, April 16.—Villa's body has been dug up of a two weeks' old grave by Carlos Carranza, nephew of Gen. Carranza, the first chief of the constitutionalists, and is now being brought by him and an escort of soldiers to the city of Chihuahua.

This information was contained in a telegram received by the war department late this afternoon.

According to dispatches thus far received Villa's death was due to the amputation of one of his legs made necessary by wounds received in the fighting near Guerrero in the State of Chihuahua. After being desperately wounded he was carried by his followers to the town of Temosachic, where the amputation was performed by a village doctor.

As soon as the bandit chief could be moved he was carried south to the town of Cusiuhirac, 39 miles distant. Here, according to the story, he lingered for a few days before death.

The identity of the wounded had been kept secret from the villagers and he was buried at night so as to attract as little attention as possible. In the escort that carried the wounded chieftain from Temosachic to Cusiuhirac was a colonel who later was surrounded by constitutional forces and surrendered himself and his command. He asked for amnesty and promised to lead the constitutionalists to the grave of Villa.

Young Carranza and an escort were detailed to accompany him and a body was dug by him and, according to a telegram, was identified as that of Pancho Villa.

The body, it is announced, will be publicly exhibited at Chihuahua City. Gen. Obregon, minister of war, when asked by the Associated Press regarding the report of the bandit's death, said:

"I can not yet confirm the report of Villa's death. Late this afternoon the war department received a telegram from Gen. Gavira saying that Villa's body had been recovered. 'Later information that the body had been disinterred through information furnished by a Villista colonel was received. I have telegraphed for information that will leave no doubt regarding the report. At present I do not care to express an opinion as to its truth or falsity.'"

DIED ON TRAIN.

It was learned here this afternoon that a citizen of Calhoun Falls, named Weinraub, returning home from Augusta, died on the C. & W. C. passenger train this afternoon just before the train reached McCormick. Greenwood Journal, April 14.

COUNTY TRACK MEET TO BE HELD SATURDAY

Athletic Part Field Day Program Will Be
Carried Out Here Saturday---Schools
Urged to Send Representatives

The Athletic part of the County, Field Day program which had to be postponed on account of the bad weather April 7th, is to be carried out on Saturday, April 22nd. Any school in the county may enter. It will not be required of each school that they enter two thirds of the contests as was announced last week.

Prizes have been offered by the merchants of Abbeville, each being equal in value to \$1.00. The two fifty yard races have been cut out and also the apple race. All the other events of the program will be carried out. An admission fee of 25c. and 15c. will be charged. The meet will be held at 2 o'clock at the Fair Grounds. Any contestant may enter as many events as he wishes.

A card announcing this meet has been sent to each teacher of the county and it is hoped that most of the schools of the county will send representatives.

A LUCKY ESCAPE.

Dote Smith came down street Saturday afternoon to receive the congratulations of his friends on his escape from the Asylum.

DR. NEUFFER PRESIDENT.

Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Neuffer left Monday for Charleston, where they go to attend the meeting of the State Medical Association. While in Charleston they will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hayne Wannamaker. As President of the Association, Dr. Neuffer will have many pleasant attentions shown him.

BACK IN HIS OLD HOME.

Capt. E. M. Penney has moved back to Abbeville and is at work on the Seaboard Road. He has lived for several years at Lancaster and stood well with the people of that city and with the managers of the road. His friends are glad to have him and his interesting family come back home.

THE COMING PRESIDENTS.

Pompadour hair is coming back in style, that is among the school boys, from the first grade boys on up and the drug store men and the barbers are kept busy these days. There has been a heavy run on pomade and there is a regiment of sweet smelling boys around town just now. A young hero of ten years told us a day or two ago that you "could make your hair stand up fine in a week's time if you put pomade on it in the day, and slept with an old stocking tied around your head at night."

TAKING THE OVERLAND ROUTE.

Messrs. Henry and Sam Carlisle have invested in a handsome Overland car and are riding away with the hearts of many of our pretty young girls. They purchased the car from A. M. Stone, the talkative agent for the Overland at this place.

LEAVING ABBEVILLE.

Dr. W. E. McCord and family are leaving Abbeville this week for Greenwood, where they will make their home in the future. Dr. McCord came to Abbeville a year ago from Conway and has practiced Dentistry here since then. He is an excellent dentist and an affable man and our people regret that he is leaving. Mrs. McCord is popular with her neighbors and they give her up with regret.

GOING TO CAREY.

Mrs. W. G. Stevens and Misses Ruth and Victoria Howie are at Carey, N. C., this week in attendance on the Commencement exercises of the Carey school. Messrs. Rodney Stevens and Sanford Howie will graduate and their people have gone up to take part in the interesting occasion.

These young men have done well in their school and their friends are interested in their success. Abbeville was well represented on the staff of the School Journal, Messrs. Howie and Stevens and Miss Lillian Killingsworth being among the editors.

HERE FROM DONALDS.

Mr. J. H. Brock, of Donalds, was in the city Monday looking after legal matters.

CARRANZA NOTE RAISES NEW ISSUE

DE FACTO GOVERNMENT IN
MEXICO WANTS AMERICAN
TROOPS WITHDRAWN.

Washington, April 13.—In official quarters it was stated that the American troops will not be withdrawn, at this time at least, and that while the question is being discussed with Gen. Carranza the pursuit of the Villa bandits will be pushed with renewed vigor.

Washington, April 13.—Gen. Carranza, in a note which arrived at his embassy here early today, for presentation to Secretary Lansing, asks for the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico.

The note raises a new issue in a situation already much complicated, the outcome of which officials are reticent to predict until they have gone over the communication carefully and considered what reply the United States will make.

To End Negotiations.

The note was sent to Eliseo Arrondon, the Carranza representative in Washington, with instructions for its delivery to Secretary Lansing "so ending negotiations for a reciprocal passing of troops and asking for dis-occupation of the territory occupied by American troops in view of Villa's party having been destroyed."

Emphasis is laid on the fact that the American expedition was undertaken under a misunderstanding. Although acting in good faith the declaration is made that the United States has interpreted the first note of the defacto government as effecting a definite agreement between the two nations. But the intention of the defacto government was that no expedition should be sent into Mexico until terms and conditions relative to an agreement were defined.

Wants Discussion Suspended.
The note declares therefore that in consequence of no final agreement having been reached as to the terms of the treaty to regulate the reciprocal passage of troops over the line "the Mexican government judges it convenient to suspend for the present all discussion or negotiations in this particular, or founded on the circumstances that the expedition sent by the United States government to pursue Villa is without foundation in virtue of the non-existence of a previous agreement formal and definite."

What was intended by the note of March 10, it is pointed out, was to submit a proposal "by means of which the forces of one and the other country could reciprocally cross the dividing line in pursuit of bandits if unfortunately there should be repeated along the border acts like those committed in Columbus."

The note, adds however: "From the beginning the Mexican government

STRICT GUARD KEPT OVER WOMAN LEPER

ISOLATED FROM HUMANITY EX-
CEPT FOR HER HUSBAND WHO
IS WAITING UPON HER.

Columbia, April 14.—Special: Confined in a house near McCormick, isolated from humanity except for her husband, and kept under shotgun guard, is a negro woman leper. She is kept in one room of the house and in the adjoining room is her husband, who is waiting on her. The county officials furnish the leper and her husband with supplies, and there she is in lonely confinement, as completely isolated as if she were on one of the islands of the South Sea.

The negro woman was sent from Abbeville County to the State Hospital for the Insane, supposedly because she was insane. When she arrived at the State Hospital Superintendent Williams, always careful, noticed the peculiarity of the skin disease and had her isolated for examination. Several examinations and tests were made, and finally the Hospital authorities called in Dr. Lynch, of the State Medical College staff, who was doing some research work at the State Hospital, and after a most careful and painstaking examination and investigation the woman was pronounced a leper. Immediately the officials of the State Hospital for the Insane, notified the board of health that the negro woman was not insane, but was suffering from leprosy, and that they could not keep her, as she was not insane.

Could Not Go On Train.

The question then arose as to what to do with the negro woman, isolated from a fully developed case of leprosy. She could not be transported back to Abbeville on the train, for there is a special rule of the State board of health forbidding the transportation on trains of people suffering with leprosy. The Abbeville authorities were consulted, and finally it was determined to transport the woman back to her home by automobile. It is said that the supervisor of Abbeville arranged for an automobile, and in this the woman was carried back through the country to her home and there confined in an isolated house, closely guarded day and night. It is said her husband lives in the adjoining room to his wife and waits on her, and that the guards place supplies for them at convenient points, which is gotten by the husband, who is caring entirely for the wants of his wife.

It is said that the automobile in which the negro woman was taken from here to Abbeville County was burned along with the clothes worn by the men who took her back.

Abbeville County has been guarding the woman and furnishing the supplies, it is said, but now the burden will be transferred to the newly formed county of McCormick, for it is said that the woman is confined in a house in that section and within the bounds of the new county.

It was on the first of the present month that the woman leper was removed from the State Hospital to her home in McCormick County. The news of this situation first reached the ears of this correspondent some days ago, but it was only to-day that the facts were confirmed sufficiently to justify publication. Dr. C. Fred Williams, superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane, this morning admitted the fact that the negro woman had been pronounced a leper and taken back by automobile to her former home.

It is said that the people of Abbeville and McCormick counties are much concerned over the fact that a leper is in their section, but everybody has manifested a reluctance to talking about the case.

ILL-FATED AUGUSTA SUFFERS NEW FIRE

Augusta, Ga., April 17.—A fire which broke out at 10:40 o'clock last night in the basement of the Harrison building is now believed to be under control and the total damage is estimated at about \$100,000 and is said to be partly covered by insurance.

Owing to the difficult position of the fire which began in a compartment of a basement barber shop and Turkish bath, about half way through the building, the fire fighters were heavily handicapped in finding the exact location of the flames. They succeeded, however, in keeping the fire from reaching elevator shafts and spreading above the first floor of the building.

In the 700 block on Broad street with the Harrison building are located many of the principal retail houses of the city, these concerns, together with the professional people who were recently burned out in the fire which destroyed more than 30 blocks and since located in the Harrison building, were busy for several hours making ready to move what could be handled from the district.

Early this morning one small house on the outskirts of the city was completely destroyed and another badly damaged, it is said, before the firemen could control the blaze.

THE BOOK CLUB.

The regular meeting of the Book Club will be held at the home of Mrs. E. R. Thomson this morning at eleven o'clock.

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